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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/195,005 | 11/18/1998 | BERND WILLING | MO-4861-HE-1 | 3843 |

7590 08/13/2004

PATENT DEPARTMENT
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| EXAMINER |
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VALENZA, JOSEPH E

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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DATE MAILED: 08/13/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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| APPLICATION NO/ CONTROL NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. |
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Commissioner for Patents

The reply brief filed 7/26/04 has been entered and considered. The application has been forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for decision on the appeal.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Joseph E. Valenza at telephone number (703) 308-2577. Amendments may be faxed to (703) 872-9306. My normal work week is Monday through Thursday.

JOSEPH E. VALENZA
PRIMARY EXAMINER